

ENGLANDS
APPEALE
TO ITS OWN
ARMY.
OR
The loud cry of an oppressed
KINGDOME.
Against their oppressors.

BEING
A Declaration of the indirect and treacherous practises of several
Members of the House of Commons, who contrary to their trust
have endeavoured to enslave the King, and Kingdome un-
der an arbitrary power, contrary to Law and
Justice, and the practice of former Parliaments.

Published at the earnest desire of some well-affected Gentry and Com-
mons of this Kingdome

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ANSWER TO A QUESTION

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Application of the current statute of Limitations in a case of Contract and Complaince.

ENGLANDS
A P P E A L E
TO THE
ARMY
OR THE LOUD CRY OF AN OPPRESSED KINGDOME
against their oppressors.

Allant Souldiers, you who God hath honoured with success, to the admiration of your friends, and astonishment of your enemies: Now let us see whether you will prove faithfull to England yea, or no; whether the publicke peace and welfare of this poore sinking Kingdome, be of so high esteemme with you, as your owne easie and particular interest or no; if you dare not trus God at Jordan, which hath wrought wonders for you in the wildernes; delivered you out of the hands of Pharaoh; and brought you through the Red-Sea; if you will say after all this Manna, but can God give us flesh also; if yee will thus dishonour God before the People; yee may come with Moses to see that good Land that shall flow with righteousnesse and peace; but not possesse it. [Therefore be of good courage, and let us play the men for our People, and for the City of our God, and the Lord doe that which seemeth him good: 2 Sam. 1. 12.]

If yee have hitherto had confidence in your owne wisedome and strength. If yee have hitherto sought your owne exaltation and selfe interests in your actings. If yee hitherto preferred your owne pay and Areears, your owne honour, and vindication; before the publicke peace and welfare of the Kingdome; let us know it; do not dissemble any longer with us; let us have some time to prepare our selves to become slaves.

But if God have hitherto been your wisedome and strength; if the Kingdomes peace and safety have been of greater value with you

won then our own lives, if it hath bee[n] the honour and glory of
God, you have bought more. Then your owne vindication and
reputation? Why is it not so? Did we ever thinke you would
be mercenary Soldiers, you are not all French and Scotch, sure there is some of you fine-borne English-men; wee thought
you had been equally intercalled with us in the common-wealths
good. What have you lost your interest and freedoms by fight-
ing for them? If ye had bee[n] in France fighting there for mo-
ney against Spaine, ye might have demanded as much there up-
on your disbanding, as you have requested here yet.

Surely there is some other grievances lies upon your spirits,
because you are not intercalled as are others, Indemnity, Vindication
you present in your Declaration you coulde with other things,
wee hope your expectations in relation to your service, will be
payall to that of your wages, Have youe seen all the paines and
puzzles to all this cost to me, up the building of a well-grounded
Peace, and will ye leave it so lightly now, as the least blast of
wind shall blow it over againe, and to make our latter end
worse then our beginning.

But wee hope you cannot, you dare not thus deal with us.
The generallity of your carriage and demeanour amongst us,
hath promisid better things, your severall Declarations to your
Souldiers in the behalfe of the Country, as you marched along,
Your sincere and exemplary proceedings against any of them
that did us any wrongs, cannot but beget better thoughts in us
towards you.

For wee must confesse, wee never could distinguish betwixt
Cavalliers and Roundheads by their carriage amongst us, till you
were an Army, or at least a great part of you in armes for us;
and since God hath made you usefull to affect many of us to the
Parliament, by your faire carriage to us. Doe not leave us till
in some meaneur we be affled of our expectations, let we have
but come to say, you have therein bereft us more to us.

Therefore wee declare to you, if you disband or lay downe
Armes before wee have some further and fuller assurance of a
honeste enjoyment of our liberties and freedoms, and to live
under the government and protection of our knowne Laws,
which

which you have often times pretended you fought to maintain,
you doe so much as in your lifer betray us into bondage and slave-
ry; had we not beene conquer'd into subjection to arbitrary
governement, wee had not never have beene sold to it; therfore
for your farther satisfaction concerning not disbanding, wee
shall referre to your consideration these following reasons.

1. Because we conceive you did not take up arms to defend
either boundeable prerogative, or unlimited prerogatives, but
to maintaine the common libertes of all the free-borne People
of England, against all tyrannical usurpations, and unjust op-
pressions by whomsoever exercised: and since by the blessing of
God, you have delivered your selves and Kingdome from the
tyrannies; wee conceive its your duty to doe your utmost to pre-
serve us from the latter, at least to let us know where the cause
by you wee are not eas'd of our unshippable burdens, and letted
in the enjoyment of our just libertes and freedoms.

2. Because (we conceive) you are not engag'd in this warre
by any mercenary considerations, of profits or preferments, but
as men equally interest'd in the things ye fought for. And ma-
ny of you chosen and intrusted by the Kingdome as members of
the Parliament, and you thereby are as equally concerned in the
proceedings of the Parliament, be they good or bad, as you are

in the actings of the Armys; and what you have done or decla-
red to do for the Kingdome as Parliament men, you ought to do
by your utmost to maintaine and make good as you are Souldiers:
and considering that the late proceedings of the Parliament
have beene absolute contrary to their former Declarations, and
Protestations, whereby they will not only bring upon them-
selves, but you, the guilt of all the blood which hath been shed
in pretence of oppressing tyranny and oppression; when at this
present there is more arbitrary tyranny and oppression upon
the poore Commons, then ever there was since man can remem-
ber, which wee hope you will not be the authors of.

3. Because this present Parliament is not a free Parliament,
there being many of the late elections have had undic proceedings
in the entrie of new members, they having not beene left
to the free choice of the People, but have beene first chose by par-
ticular.

ticular Parliament men, and then recommended by insinuating Letters to the severall Countiess and Corporations, they are chosen by, which by reason of their influence some Committees and some others, had over the said Countiess and places, they durst not doe other but choose them: many of the same members which thus chuse others, are themselves guilty of high misdemeanour, some of them having long lyen under the charge of betraying their trust, others of ingraling the publicke stock into their own hands, and so have cheated the Common-wealth of vast summes of money, and for their owne security of being accomptable to the Kingdome for what they have done, have they procured by those unjust elections such men as are either interested with themselves in some guylt to the publicke as they have been Country Committees, or else such as they have had particular interest in, and relation to, and so might corrupt and sway them at their pleasure; by which meanes you had of late the major part of the House carried on to such contradictory proceedings to their former Declarations, and Protostatutons, they having beeene more mindfull of deviding the Common-wealths money among themselves, then they have beeene of paying the Common-wealths just debts; as if they were resolved never to leave raising of money as long as the Commons of Eng-
lands be worth a penny.

4. Because the end of your dis-bandung, is not to easse us of the charge of an Army, there being already provision made to continue an Army every whit as chargeable, and to be feared will be more oppressive, and abusive to us then ever you have beeene: but their designe is (as fast as they can accomplish it) to new modelize the Army and Parliament too; and to intrust none but such as are equally guilty with themselves, or in some kind interested in their design, which is to dis-throne the King, and inflave the People, and set themselves up as Lords and Kings in his roome, and so in stead of having an Army to protect us, wee shall have an Army in our owne bowels, paid by us, to inflave us: but wee hope since you expect your due in point of wages from us, you will give us leave to tell you wee expect the performance of your duty in point of faithfulness, from you hardly

hardly thinking you can in honesty or conscience demand all your arrears or wages till you have brought your work to some fuller perfection, for if you leave us thus, you leave us in a worse condition then you found us.

5. Because we have found more Justice and benefit from our troubles in Parliament, within these ten daies, since you have stood up, and declared for us, then wee had formerly received in ten monethes, when you stood as it were Neuters to us: as witness those selfe-denying Votes; The taking off the Excise from flesh and Salt, except their desires to hasten the Propositiōns to the King: their approving your Petition, and answering your grievances; their relieveng the necessit ies of severall reformatio Officers which formerly were out of hopes; all which makes us confident, that if according to your declaring there were a period set to this Parliament, and provision made for further Parliaments to succeed one another, whereby Parliaments might know they were questionable, for their actions at such a period of time, and should then expect to find an imparciall communicating of Justice to all the free-borne People of this Kingdome: and wee cannot expect it before. Therefore we declare to you, if you will stand by us in those just and imparciall things you have declared to us, wee are resolved to stand by you, and own you in them, to the utmost of our abilities and last drop of our blood.

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